

Serial No. 10/729,265

Docket No. 95,868

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is an independent claim. Claims 2-14 are dependent claims.

Claims 10 and 11 have been objected to, and claims 1-14 have been rejected. Claims 10-12 have been rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner on pages 2 and 4 of the January 11, 2006 Office Action.

Claims 1-3 have been cancelled. Claims 4-9 have been amended to depend from claim 11. Claims 7, 8, 10-12, and 14 have been amended to improve form.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

On pages 2 and 3 of the January 11, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-14 as being indefinite for the reasons set forth therein. Applicant submits that amendments to the claims presented above meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under § 112, second paragraph.

Objections to the Claims

On page 4 of the January 11, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 10 and 11 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 10 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to claims 10 and 11.

Serial No. 10/729,265

Docket No. 95,868

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

On pages 3 and 4 of the January 11, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kruse (U.S. Patent No. 4,504,362) in view of O'Hare (U.S. Patent No. 4,459,177) or Bhatt (U.S. Patent No. 5,101,593). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons presented below.

Claims 1-3 have been cancelled. The Examiner has indicated that claim 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form and claims 4-9 have been rewritten to depend from claim 11.

The Examiner indicated in a May 10, 2006 Examiner Interview that claim 12, as amended in the March 1, 2006 Response, would be allowable if the word "providing" in the first four clauses of claim 12 were replaced with words such as "installing," "locating," and "disposing." Claim 12 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 13 and 14 depend from claim 12.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 4-9 and 12-14 patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under § 103.

Examiner Interview

On May 10, 2006, the undersigned Attorney Gilsdorf conducted an Examiner Interview with Examiner Manoharan. During the Examiner Interview, the Examiner indicated that claims 10 and 11 are allowable, and that claim 12 would be allowable if the word "providing" in the first four clauses of claim 12 were replaced with words such as "installing," "locating," and "disposing." Claim 12 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner also indicated that the claims depending from claim 1 may be allowable if rewritten to depend from claim 11. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled in this Supplemental Response and claims 4-9 have been amended to depend from claim 11.

Serial No. 10/729,265

Docket No. 95,868

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted to be in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Finally, if there are any additional fees associated with filing of this response, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 502895.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 10, 2006By: C. Joan Gilsdorf
Christine Joan Gilsdorf
Registration No. 43,635

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command
(USASMDC)
SMDC-LC-S
P.O. Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801
Telephone: (256) 955-3213
Facsimile: (256) 955-1137